MR. CHAIRMAN: But the Minister promised to send it. He does not have it with him now.

SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA: I will send it.

SHRI VIREN J. SHAH: It arises out of this. He should have the numbers. How can he not have the information which is related to the main question?

SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA: Sir, to my mind, so far as the surplus labour in ECL and BCCL is concerned, it is affecting. But the total number is not with me. I will inform the hon. Member.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 85. I am clubbing it with Question No. 97 which is also on the same subject.

Decontrol of Sugar

†*85. SHRI SOM PAL
MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Sugar Mills Association has currently been lobbying for decontrol of sugar and has been approaching Government for the purpose.

(b) if so, whether the Indian Sugar Mills Association is seeking decontrol of sugar prices and distribution only or even delicensing of the industry; and

(c) what is the reaction of Government in this regard and by when it is going to take decision?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Indian Sugar Mills Association has made representations from time to time wherein they have recommended to Government a policy of decontrol of sugar prices alongwith automatically in sugar releases.

The stand of the Indian Sugar Mills Association in respect of licensing is that expansion of capacity should be de-licensed. However, in regard to new units they have expressed certain reservations.

(c) For the present, the Govt. intends to continue the existing policy of partial control with a dual pricing system.

As regards delicening of the sugar industry, the present licensing policy, including the option of delicensing, is being reviewed by the Government.

Production and demand of Sugar

*97. HSHRI VIREN J. SHAH:†
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) what is the estimated production and demand of sugar during the year 1995-96 and also the production and demand in 1993-94 and 1994-95;

(b) what steps Government have taken to ensure the normal production and availability of sugar to consumers at reasonable prices;

(c) whether there is any proposal to decontrol sugar; if so, what are the details and the present position in this regard;

(d) whether Government have examined the recommendations of the Gian Prakash Committee Report on sugar import scandal; if so, what are the details thereof, what has been the extent of loss caused to exchequer due to non-coordination of Government Departments resulting in delay in the import of sugar and rise in its prices;

(e) what action Government have taken against each of the persons in the Ministry of Food, Food Corporation of India, STC, etc. found responsible for delay in import of sugar and losses caused to the exchequer; and

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Sompal.

Question Nos. 85 and 97 were discussed together.

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Viren J. Shah.

Question Nos. 85 and 97 were discussed together.